12: Murphy E-5 (1952-1953) 1960
SQ13 Mundurucu SQ13

Second, warfare, for both mercenary, 175
pay and trophy heads, persisted on a somewhat reduced 182
scale and was especially successful, as Hartt notes, because 648
of the acquisition of firearms.[20] The continuance of warfare 721
helped to maintain the cohesion of the tribe and village as
social units for the reasons already discussed, and also be-
cause it bolstered the positions of the chiefs by activating [622]
their roles as war leaders.

The Mundurucú who remained in their traditional vil- 175
lages in the savannahs east of the upper Tapajós were not 439
as completely absorbed into the invading Brazilian so- 648
ciety as the people who migrated to the river banks to tap [177]
rubber. But they, too, sought trade goods, and these, in-
creasingly, were available only through rubber production.
The most troublesome tribes of the region were largely
pacified, and the demand for Mundurucú military service
had consequently declined. Also, the Indians were more 175
valuable to the traders in collecting rubber, which by the 464
end of the century was netting the traders fabulous mon- 648
etary returns. The recruitment of Indians into rubber col- 221
lecting did not cause the immediate disintegration of their
village life. Rubber was collected by them only from June
to September, during which period they left their savan-
nah villages to live in temporary shelters at their rubber
avenues. This seasonal fractionation of the society had a
precedent in the traditional practice of scattering along
the streams to hunt and fish during the dry season. As in
times past, when rubber collection was finished, the dis-
persed populations reunited in their villages, where the na-
tive round of activities persisted throughout the remain-
ing nine months of the year.

The Mundurucú territory also shrunk, for traditional- 131
type villages no longer existed on the waters of the 175
Crepory River in 1895 when Coudreau ascended the Ta-

[20] Hartt, 1885, p. 131.